

RIVER OAKS ELEMENTARY

“Where Discovery is Elementary”

September 29, 2009

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

School Phone: (713) 942-1460
After School Program: (713) 524-8430
Office Hours: 7:15 am – 4:15 pm
Web Site: <http://es.houstonisd.org/riveroakses>
E-mail: sgolden@houstonisd.org
PTO website: <http://www.riveroakspto.org>

CALENDAR ITEMS

October 3	OotM Coach Workshop, 9-12
October 10	ROE Fun Run
October 10	Dyslexia Awareness Day, 8:30-2
October 14	PTO General Meeting, 7pm
November 6	Fall Frenzy

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SHENKER

I hope you enjoyed your extended weekend. This is the stretch of the school year when instruction kicks into high gear. We are going to be about the important business of teaching and learning in the coming months. We appreciate your continued efforts in getting your children to school on time and ready to learn.

This week you may begin to access your child's grades online through ParentStudentConnect. Detailed access instructions are included on our school website. We will overview these features at our PTO meeting in October. In the meantime, please let us know if you need assistance in accessing your child's grades.

We are in the process of revising our dismissal procedures. There are a number of pieces that must be in place in order to transition to a new plan. Therefore, we will continue with our current dismissal procedure until October 13th. We want to allow ample time to communicate and implement changes. I greatly appreciate your patience as we work together to create a smooth, safe process.

ROE FUN RUN

Last Week to register! If you haven't done so, you should be getting the registration form for the last time today in the green folder. Please turn in all orders by this Friday Oct 2nd.

Are you training? Encourage your child by going for a run together. Also, the wheel barrow race is something we don't often do. Spend a few minutes on some grass with one person on their hands! It's great fun and it builds upper body strength. I still need volunteers for 30 minute time slots!

You can reach me at Natalie.cordova@earthlink.net or call 713.444.7120.

- Natalie Cordova

A BIG "GREEN" THUMBS UP!!

Have you noticed that the trees, bushes and shrubs in the front of our school are looking mighty fine? We'd like to

thank alumni Kerby Huffman's mother, owner of Longhorn Landscape Services, Inc. (www.longhornlandscapeservices.com, 713.667.9000) for donating many hours of services last Saturday. We appreciate the continued support of our school from our past and present families. We'd also like to thank 4th grade mom, Brooke Graubart and her mother, Marilyn Douglass, for giving our potted plants at the front door some, much needed, TLC! They really look beautiful and now, reflect our enriching learning environment.
- ROE PTO

VOLUNTEER OF THE DAY

Share your time and talents! There are still many dates available for Volunteer of the Day! Volunteer and provide much needed support to teachers, staff and students! To sign up or for more information, contact Isabella Alcaniz at ialcaniz@uh.edu.

ROE STORE NEWS

We are pleased to announce a new online Directory Search for all Store members (parents, teachers, and staff). This replaces the old "electronic directory" feature and is free. We do have to validate that you are a legitimate member of the school community before you can access student information. If your existing child has been matched against the roster, your account has already been granted access to the Directory Search. If you create a new account or have more than one account, please be patient with us for the sake of safety. Go to the PTO Site (www.riveroakspto.org, and follow the link to the ROE Store). Login, then click on Community. You can search by any child or parent name or type in a teacher last name.

We also have a new Contact page. Feel free to send us an email through the Contact page or at support@myschoolvalet.com, if you have any questions. Please include your username with any inquiry. We appreciate your feedback. The Store is a volunteer service to our community.

- Your ROE Store Team, Lilian & Rick Wannall.

PTO GENERAL MEETING

Our next PTO General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14th at 7:00PM in the cafeteria. You'll want to join us to hear about the new HISD online grade book - GradeSpeed. We'll also be featuring a Personal Safety Seminar hosted by Richard Bloome, Crime Deterrent Specialist. See the flyer coming home this week for more details. Childcare will be provided for school aged children.

- Diane Cimino, PTO President

ROE ODYSSEY NEWS

There is still time to submit your interest in the Odyssey of the Mind program. Beginning teams often do not begin to meet until October. Send an e-mail to Michele Dahlquist at mdahlqui@houstonisd.org with the following information:

- Child's name, grade, teacher, availability for meetings (after school and/or weekends).
- Special interests: artistic, theatrical, technical.
- Michele will help you join a team. Please also indicate if you are willing to coach or co-coach a team!

If you missed the Parent Awareness meeting, feel free to ask questions! Contact Michele Dahlquist at mdahlqui@houstonisd.org and/or Sarah Slemmons at sslemmons@yahoo.com. You may also enjoy looking at the official OotM international website at www.odysseyofthemind.org.

Keep in mind, the only guarantee your child will join a team is if you agree to coach! Odyssey of the Mind can't operate without coaches. Every year there are more children interested in joining a team, and not enough parents that coach. Sadly, some children don't get the chance to join. Find out more by attending the all new Coach Workshop!

New This Year: Coach Workshop! Saturday, October 3rd at ROE, 9:00-12:00. Please email Michele if you plan to attend so we can have the appropriate amount of materials prepared for everyone.